

I am upset about Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. I'm frightened by this clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for their bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. It's important that we see real people from our own communities and real, substantive news about issues that matter. This anti-Kerry documentary is clearly not news. It is being aired very near Election Day; a sure sign that its intent is political.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. The media are licensed to serve the public, and airing a slanted political program is certainly not serving the public interest or the interest of true democracy. Thank you.